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MASSACHUSETTS TRIAL COURT  
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF PROBATION  
DONALD COCHRAN, COMMISSIONER



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JUVENILE PROBATION

# JUVENILE NEW RISK/NEED SUMMARY TABLES

PREPARED BY:

RESEARCH AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

JUNE 5, 1996



STATEWIDE JUVENILE COURT  
RISK/NEED OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS  
5 YEAR COMPARISON 1991 - 1995

OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS	1991 (N=3212)	1992 (N=3568)	1993 (N=3364)	1994 (N=3246)	1995 (N=4048)
AVERAGE AGE (YEARS)	14.9	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.9
OFFENSE CHARACTERISTICS					
PERSON OFFENDERS	24.3%	31.7%	36.5%	37.8%	39.0%
PROPERTY OFFENDERS	51.7	49.7	46.1	43.6	41.8
DRUG OFFENDERS	5.7	5.5	5.6	8.2	9.3
MOTOR VEHICLE	7.8	5.9	4.9	3.1	3.1
OTHER	10.4	7.1	7.0	7.3	6.9
RISK CHARACTERISTICS					
PRIOR RECORD PAST 5 YRS	32.0	33.5	34.7	38.8	39.5
PRIOR PERIOD OF PROBATION					
PAST 5 YEARS	24.6	23.7	22.5	25.0	26.1
≤14 YEARS OLD 1ST OFFENSE	51.4	53.5	54.5	56.6	56.2
TWO OR MORE RESIDENCE					
CHANGES	11.5	10.4	10.4	13.6	13.6
SCHOOL DISCIPLINE PROBLEM	68.5	73.1	76.6	80.0	81.4
HOME DISCIPLINE PROBLEM	69.3	72.7	72.5	77.5	77.2
ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE					
PROBLEM	35.1	38.1	41.4	52.6	56.3
PEER RELATION PROBLEM	68.0	74.7	77.8	80.9	84.5
ATTITUDINAL PROBLEM	15.5	21.6	26.8	51.0	55.1
NEED CHARACTERISTICS					
EDUCATION SKILLS PROBLEM	58.0	62.4	66.1	70.3	71.6
FAMILY RELATIONS PROBLEM	44.1	49.9	52.1	55.3	56.7
SOCIAL RELATIONS PROBLEM	64.1	70.2	75.0	78.8	81.2
ALCOHOL ABUSE PROBLEM	20.9	24.1	26.4	32.7	34.1
OTHER DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM	15.2	18.1	21.9	34.1	39.9
BEHAVIOR PROBLEM	42.3	49.5	52.4	57.3	60.6
PROBATION SUPERVISION					
AVERAGE LENGTH (MONTHS)	11.1	11.8	10.8	10.8	11.4
LEVELS					
MAXIMUM	41.0%	47.9%	53.4%	65.1%	66.7%
MODERATE	40.6	39.1	36.6	29.3	28.7
MINIMUM	18.3	13.0	9.9	5.6	4.6

SOURCE: RESEARCH AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PROBATION, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, 1996.



STATEWIDE JUVENILE COURT  
1995 MALE AND FEMALE RISK/NEED OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS

OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS	MALE (N= 3352)	FEMALE (N= 696)	TOTAL (N= 4048)
AVERAGE AGE (YEARS)	14.9	14.9	14.9

OFFENSE CHARACTERISTICS

PERSON OFFENDERS	37.4 %	46.7 %	39.0 %
PROPERTY OFFENDERS	43.3	34.5	41.8
DRUG OFFENDER	9.8	6.6	9.3
MOTOR VEHICLE	2.9	3.9	3.1
OTHER	6.6	8.3	6.9

RISK CHARACTERISTICS

PRIOR RECORD PAST 5 YRS	42.0	27.3	39.5
PRIOR PERIOD OF PROBATION			
PAST 5 YEARS	27.8	18.0	26.1
≤14 YEARS OLD 1ST OFFENSE	57.0	52.0	56.2
TWO OR MORE RESIDENCE			
CHANGES	12.5	19.0	13.6
SCHOOL DISCIPLINE PROBLEM	81.2	82.5	81.4
HOME DISCIPLINE PROBLEM	76.9	78.6	77.2
ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE			
PROBLEM	56.3	56.2	56.3
PEER RELATION PROBLEMS	84.5	84.5	84.5
ATTITUDINAL PROBLEM	56.4	48.6	55.1

NEED CHARACTERISTICS

EDUCATION SKILLS PROBLEM	71.4	72.6	71.6
FAMILY RELATIONS PROBLEM	54.2	68.5	56.7
SOCIAL RELATIONS PROBLEM	81.2	81.2	81.2
ALCOHOL ABUSE PROBLEM	33.3	38.1	34.1
OTHER DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM	40.4	37.5	39.9
BEHAVIOR PROBLEM	59.1	68.1	60.6

PROBATION SUPERVISION

AVERAGE LENGTH (MONTHS)	11.6	10.3	11.4
LEVELS			
MAXIMUM	66.9 %	66.2 %	66.7 %
MODERATE	28.5	29.7	28.7
MINIMUM	4.7	4.0	4.6

SOURCE: RESEARCH AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE  
COMMISSIONER OF PROBATION, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, 1996.



STATEWIDE JUVENILE COURT  
LEVEL OF SUPERVISION CHARACTERISTICS  
1995 RISK/NEED OFFENDERS

OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS	MAX (N=2702)	MOD (N=1161)	MIN (N=185)	TOTAL (N=4048)
AVERAGE AGE (YEARS)	15.0	14.8	14.8	14.9
OFFENSE CHARACTERISTICS				
PERSON OFFENDERS	50.9%	15.3%	13.0%	39.0%
PROPERTY OFFENDERS	32.1	60.5	66.5	41.8
DRUG OFFENDERS	8.6	11.3	6.5	9.3
MOTOR VEHICLES	2.3	4.4	5.9	3.1
OTHER	6.1	8.5	8.1	6.9
RISK CHARACTERISTICS				
PRIOR RECORD PAST 5 YRS	51.7	16.8	2.7	39.5
PRIOR PERIOD OF PROBATION				
PAST 5 YEARS	36.3	6.5	0.5	26.1
≤14 YEARS OLD 1ST OFFENSE	61.4	47.2	35.7	56.2
TWO OR MORE RESIDENCE				
CHANGES	18.7	3.8	1.1	13.6
SCHOOL DISCIPLINE PROBLEM	90.1	72.0	13.0	81.4
HOME DISCIPLINE PROBLEM	84.7	68.6	21.6	77.2
ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE				
PROBLEM	63.1	47.4	13.5	56.3
PEER RELATION PROBLEM	88.3	81.7	47.0	84.5
ATTITUDINAL PROBLEM	68.7	31.9	1.6	55.1
NEED CHARACTERISTICS				
EDUCATION SKILLS PROBLEM	82.8	55.6	9.2	71.6
FAMILY RELATIONS PROBLEM	66.6	40.0	16.8	56.7
SOCIAL RELATIONS PROBLEM	85.9	75.8	47.0	81.2
ALCOHOL ABUSE PROBLEM	40.5	24.0	4.3	34.1
OTHER DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM	47.3	27.9	7.6	39.9
BEHAVIOR PROBLEM	70.7	44.5	15.1	60.6
PROBATION SUPERVISION				
AVERAGE LENGTH (MONTHS)	11.9	10.6	8.8	11.4

SOURCE: RESEARCH AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PROBATION, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, 1996.





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**STATEWIDE JUVENILE COURT  
1995 RISK/NEED OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS BY OFFENSE TYPE**

OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS	PERSON (N=1578)	PROPERTY (N=1691)	CONTR SUBS (N=375)	MOTOR VEH (N=125)	OTHER (N=279)
AVERAGE AGE (YEARS)	14.9	14.8	15.4	15.4	15.0
<b>RISK CHARACTERISTICS</b>					
PRIOR RECORD PAST 5 YRS	39.4 %	38.8 %	40.8 %	42.4 %	41.2 %
PRIOR PERIOD OF					
PROBATION PAST 5 YRS	26.7	25.3	26.9	31.2	24.7
≤14 YRS OLD 1ST OFFENSE	59.1	58.1	39.5	45.6	55.6
TWO OR MORE RESIDENCE					
CHANGES	16.1	12.4	11.2	8.0	12.5
SCHOOL DISCIPLINE PROBLEM	83.1	80.1	81.1	77.6	81.4
HOME DISCIPLINE PROBLEM	77.9	76.3	77.9	82.4	75.4
ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE					
PROBLEM	50.4	52.6	93.9	60.0	59.9
PEER RELATIONSHIP PROBLEM	81.1	88.2	86.7	80.0	80.6
ATTITUDINAL PROBLEM	58.9	52.4	52.5	54.4	53.4
<b>NEED CHARACTERISTICS</b>					
EDUCATION SKILLS PROBLEM	74.1	69.6	70.7	70.4	71.7
FAMILY RELATIONS PROBLEM	61.2	54.8	46.7	60.8	54.1
SOCIAL RELATIONS PROBLEM	78.6	84.6	82.4	74.4	77.1
ALCOHOL ABUSE PROBLEM	30.7	33.1	45.1	44.8	40.1
OTHER DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM	33.1	35.7	88.8	43.2	36.9
BEHAVIOR PROBLEM	65.8	54.9	71.2	55.2	54.1
<b>PROBATION SUPERVISION</b>					
AVERAGE LENGTH (MONTHS)	12.6	10.8	10.3	10.8	10.1
LEVELS					
MAXIMUM	87.2 %	51.2 %	61.9 %	50.4 %	59.1 %
MODERATE	11.3	41.5	34.9	40.8	35.5
MINIMUM	1.5	7.3	3.2	8.8	5.4

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SOURCE: RESEARCH AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PROBATION, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, 1996.

